

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 1-7 were objected to under 37 C.F.R. §1.75 as being substantially duplicate of claims 8-14. In response, claim 8 has been amended to overcome this objection. Accordingly, withdrawal of this objection to claims 1-7 is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 1-3, 5-6, 8-10 and 12-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. 6,622,304 (Carhart). Further, claims 4 and 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Carhart in view of U.S. 6,481,013 (Dinwiddie). Claims 7 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Carhart in view of U.S. 6,567,984 (Allport). In response, independent claims 1 and 8 have been amended and new claims 15-20 have been added. It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-20 are patentable over Carhart, Dinwiddie and Allport for at least the following reasons.

Carhart is directed to an interface system for computing

apparatus and communication stations. As shown in FIG 2, a splitter/reflector 25 is connected to a CATV system 10 as well as a PC interface card 26 and a TV interface device 27. The splitter/reflector 25 reflects inputs signals generated from the communication stations and blocks signals from the communication stations and a computing apparatus from moving onto the CATV system, while allowing signals from the CATV system to the communication stations and computing apparatus.

On page 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner, analogized the access point device recited in independent claims 1 and 8 to the TV interface device 27 and an input device or communications station 22, such as a video camera. Without agreeing with such an analogy, and assuming, arguendo, that such an analogy is correct, it is respectfully submitted that the interface device 27 and video camera 22 are two devices in two different housings.

In stark contrast, the present invention as recited in independent claim 1, and similarly recited in independent claims 8 and 17, requires amongst other patentable elements:

said interface means and said communication means
being located within said housing. (Emphasis
added)

Having in the same housing at least the two above-noted means, as recited in independent claims 1 and 8, or two ports, one configured to provide wireless communication among appliances of the local network, and the other configured to provide an interface to at least one appliance, as recited in independent claim 17, provides substantial benefits such as providing the user with an intuitive location to place the access point device, such as above the monitor or TV, where such a location provides desirable paths with minimal obstruction or interference for wireless communication between the access point device and the various appliances or devices of the local network.

An access point device having a housing that contains at least two particular means or elements, as recited in independent claims 1, 8 and 17, is nowhere taught or suggested in Carhart. Dinwiddie and Allport are cited to show other features and do not remedy the deficiencies in Carhart.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1, 8 and 17 are allowable, and allowance thereof is respectfully requested. In addition, it is respectfully submitted

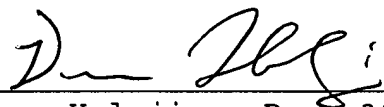
that claims 2-7, 9-16 and 18-20 should also be allowed at least based on their dependence from independent claims 1, 8 and 17.

In addition, Applicant denies any statement, position or averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented remarks. However, the Applicant reserves the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded.

It is believed that no additional fees or charges are currently due. However, in the event that any additional fees or charges are required for entrance of the accompanying amendment, they may be charged to applicant's representatives Deposit Account No. 50-3649. In addition, please credit any overpayments related to any fees paid in connection with the accompanying amendment to Deposit Account No. 50-3649.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

By 
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October 31, 2005

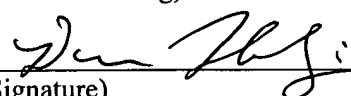
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